Unemployment of engineers

1384. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of engineers unemployed from various branches of engineering like electronic, mechanical, civil, communications etc.;

(b) the reasons for such unemployment problems of such qualified engineers in the country and the details of the areas where our engineers are lagging behind the rest of the world;

(c) whether Government are considering to evolve any programme to start finishing courses to improve skills for unemployed engineers through Internet;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No central database is maintained regarding number of engineers unemployed from various branches of engineering. Unemployment of engineers may be due to various reasons including the demand pattern within and outside the country, which *inter alia* depends upon performance of economy, particularly the manufacturing sector etc. Non-availability of qualified faculty and lack of adequate infrastructural facilities are some other factors, which have impact on the quality of education imparted in the Engineering Institutes.

(c) to (e) In order to impart communication and IT skills to engineering graduates as well as to brush-up their knowledge of core subjects so as to make them more employable in industry, it has been decided to start Finishing Schools, initially in seven National Institutes of Technology (NITs) at Jaipur, Kurukshetra, Durgapur, Warangal, Trichy, Calicut and Surathkal as well as at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Roorkee. The Finishing Schools courses will be organized during summer vacations for a period of 8 to 10 weeks. The Institutes would utilize their existing infrastructure for conducting these courses.